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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8439

INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE

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DEPT FOR NEA/RA CHUCK LAWSON AND NEA/ARP

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/02/2017

TAGS: PREL AE

SUBJECT: UAE RESPONSE TO DEMARCHE ON ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN
MINISTERS MEETING IN CAIRO MARCH 3-4

REF: SECSTATE 24372

Classified By: Ambassador Michele J. Sison,
reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) On March 2, Ambassador spoke with MFA Acting U/S Political Affairs Tariq al Haidan, who will travel today to Cairo to join FM Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al Nahyan at the Arab League Foreign Ministers meeting (AbZ is in London today and will fly to Cairo this evening). In response to Ambassador's overview of the Israeli-Palestinian situation, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, and Lebanon (reftel), al Haidan made the following points:

--the UAE hopes that the Mecca Accord will reinforce the solidarity of the Palestinian people and be implemented in such a way as to guarantee the formation of an NUG;

--the UAE reaffirms its support for Iraq and is working through reconstruction and humanitarian assistance to aid Iraq (although not a participant in the Neighbors Conference Grouping);

--the UAE is working to fulfill its obligations under UNSCR 1737, as was highlighted during the March 1 US-UAE Counterproliferation Task Force meetings in Abu Dhabi;

--the UAE shares US concerns regarding the need for Iran to comply with its nuclear obligations; and

--the UAE continues to support the people of Lebanon. The UAE is providing \$300 million in assistance promised in Paris for schools, hospitals, and demining through the Abu Dhabi Development Fund. The UAE is also assisting the Lebanese Armed Forces with equipment needs.

SISON